

PATENT
45D-1750 (81841.0041)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

R. J. Obremski, et al.

Serial No: 09/063,978

Filed: April 21, 1998

For: DETECTION OF VERY LOW
QUANTITIES OF ANALYTE
BOUND TO A SOLID PHASE

Art Unit: 1645

Examiner: Hines, Jana A.

I hereby certify that this correspondence
is being transmitted via facsimile to
(703) 308-4242; Commissioner for
Patents, Washington D.C. 20231, on

November 6, 2002

Date of Deposit

Nilka Mickey

Name

Nilka Mickey

Signature

11/6/02
Date

*Amend
33/0
Linda
11/12/02*

AMENDMENT

Box Amendment

Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated August 7, 2002, please amend the
above-referenced application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace the text of claims 1, 23, and 26 with the following text:

1. (Twice Amended) A binding assay for sensing analyte mass in a
liquid sample, comprising:

a) immobilizing an array on a substrate, wherein the array comprises a
plurality of microscopic sorbent zones, wherein a microscopic sorbent zone
comprises a multi-layer matrix of an analyte binding partner;

b) contacting a defined volume of sample believed to contain an analyte
with at least one microscopic sorbent zone, the analyte binding partner in the
microscopic sorbent zone being present in excess relative to the analyte, so that any
analyte present in the defined volume is substantially depleted from the sample and
concentrated on the microscopic sorbent zone to form an analyte capture complex
with the analyte binding partner;